

THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 36

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 138, No. 36

Sumpter Township received the top rating on the fiscal year audit presented to trustees during their meeting Aug. 22.

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THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 76, No. 36

Applications are now being accepted for the Canton Lead #LikeAGirl, Be A #ModelMan, and Youth Advisory Council programs for the 2023-2024 school year.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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Survivors were overcome with emotion last week during a press conference seeking clues to the death of Anthony “Nick” Jones who was killed 4 years ago in Inkster.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Tipping Point Theatre will open the 16th theatrical season on Oct. 4 with the 1988 beloved classic, Driving Miss Daisy.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

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Beth Stewart, executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic, was honored with the Ruth Huston-Whipple Award for her contributions to the Plymouth community.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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The 25th annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival will take place next weekend, Sept. 15, 16 and 17 at Romulus Historical Park located at 11147 Hunt St.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE

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The City of Wayne Police Department was surprised last week with the donation of a Leer folding cover and bed liner for the motor fleet Ford F-150 truck.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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Westland Historical Society members are planning a trip into the past Sept. 16. The tour, on a trolley, will explore the history of Nankin Township and City of Westland.

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City lawsuit against former councilman dismissed

The City of Wayne lawsuit against former Councilman Anthony Miller was dismissed Aug. 30 with prejudice by Third Circuit Court Judge Sheila Gibson.

The lawsuit claimed that Miller, now 64, had breached his fiduciary responsibility to the city when he provided a hostile work environment investigation report to Michigan State Police as part of a criminal investigation. The 2018 report dealt with the conduct of former City Manager Lisa Nocerini and concluded that she should be disciplined “up to and including termination.”

The judge dismissed the claims of the city noting that the statute of limitations had expired before the suit was filed and that the city claim that the report was confidential was

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The report, in entirety, was posted on social media and the city website the same week it was presented to council members.

patently false. The report, in entirety, was posted on social media and the city website the same week it was presented to city council which negated any claim of confidentiality.

Miller, who was appointed to the city council in December of 2015 and re-elected twice, resigned his position in June of 2021 during the COVID pandemic. He subsequently moved out of state. He said he was “glad to see this over with.” Miller added that he felt vindicated by the judge’s ruling.

The investigative report concerning the conduct of Nocerini has also been accepted as evidence in three separate ongoing legal proceedings. Resident Mark Blackwell is charging Nocerini and Police Chief Ryan Strong with violations of his civil rights. He claims Nocerini motivated Strong to falsely arrest him for speaking out at public meetings regarding the findings in the report. Nocerini claimed that Blackwell was stalking her by speaking to other residents in the city hall parking lot follow-

ing council meetings and driving on Wayne Road. Blackwell was found not guilty of those allegations and he is now pursuing legal redress from the city based on the violations of his civil rights. Police Ofc. Abraham Hughes also claims Nocerini interfered with the police chief selection process by insisting Blackwell be arrested. He alleges he refused to make the arrest and claims that despite higher test scores, Strong was promoted after arresting Blackwell. The report is also part of a criminal charge against former Councilman Christopher Sanders who is charged with criminal stalking of Nocerini.

Nocerini resigned her position last week and council members named Strong as acting city manager while a replacement is recruited.

Chicken Sunday 67th Plymouth Fall Festival weekend events begin tomorrow

Tomorrow is the big day. The 67th Plymouth Fall Festival will begin as the traditional booths, entertainment and attractions along with some new features welcome crowds the community.

Attractions include a barbeque spare rib dinner from 3 until 6 p.m. tomorrow in the tent behind E.G. Nicks prepared by the Vietnam Veterans; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast Saturday morning; spaghetti dinners prepared by the Morning Rotary Club, and the start of it all, the Rotary Chicken Barbeque on Sunday beginning at about 11 a.m.

While the first of 10,000 chicken dinners should be available at 11 a.m., the event begins in the parking lot behind The Gathering Saturday evening. The Rotarians build the huge barbeque pits using cement blocks, some dating back to the first barbeque 60 years ago. The pits are loaded with charcoal and then the club “smoke eaters” light the charcoal. One Rotary member said he will light 2,000 pounds of Kingsford charcoal early Sunday morning and during the day, add another 5,000 pounds which will already be burning when added to the pits.



Rotary Club members will build the huge barbeque pits from cement blocks, some dating back to the first barbeque 60 years ago, in the parking lot behind The Gathering. The first of the famous dinners should be available at 11 a.m. Sunday.

A Rotary Club mascot chicken made a surprise appearance at the Music in the Park concert last Friday and convinced the assembled crowd to pardon him from the pits. In exchange for the mercy they showed, he offered his dance expertise which may have motivated several audience members to change their minds about their vote to pardon him.

The Plymouth Fall Festival which features carnival rides,

live entertainment on the stage in Kellogg Park, booths a Party Tent and an atmosphere of community involvement is unique to the community, explained festival president Andrea Gerber.

“Every booth, every activity at the festival is connected to a civic group and a portion, or all, of the revenue generated during the festival goes back to the club or team or organization. This is a once-a-year event when every civic group

joins in a combined fundraising effort,” she said.

Advance tickets for dinners are usually available at the ticket booths on Main Street and are discounted for early purchase.

A complete guide to the events and programs is available at the associatednewspapers.com website with free print editions available at local businesses throughout the community and at multiple festival and ticket booths.

Tornado and storm damage survey continues in Canton

Members of the Canton Township Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer program, as well as township staff and elected officials, are continuing the door-to-door damage assessments in neighborhoods affected by the severe weather last week. The information will be provided to the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division of the Michigan State Police. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has declared a state of emergency and Canton Township Supervisor Anne Marie Graham-Hudak has declared a local state of emergency.

Canton residents who experienced damage to their homes due to the recent high-impact storms who have not already participated in the door-to-door damage assessment are encouraged to



submit a self-reporting survey with photos to help assess the damage throughout the township, which is available online at: <https://arcg.is/10ab1j>. These damage assessments were created by the State of Michigan in the wake of the storms to assist with accurate reporting of damage statistics. These township assessments

are independent of insurance adjustments and affected property owners should contact their insurance provider to make insurance claims.

The purpose of these visits and the online survey is to solely conduct damage assessments on behalf of Canton Township to assist with providing the total

damage assessment numbers to the State of Michigan,” stated William Hayes, Canton Township emergency manager. “All of the information gathered in these reports helps the state to determine if a presidential declaration is warranted potentially opening

See Survey, page 6

ROMULUS

Preparations for Annual Pumpkin Festival under way

The 25th annual Romulus Pumpkin Festival, a three-day event that begins on the third Friday in September each year, will take place next weekend, Sept. 15, 16 and 17 at Romulus Historical Park located at 11147 Hunt St.

The event will begin Friday evening with the traditional Rotary Club Festival of Lights where everything is aglow, from bicycles to cement trucks. Thousands of people line Goddard Road to wait for the vehicles to pass by during the event. Information about the parade rules and entry requirements is available on the Romulus Rotary Facebook page or email Romulus.rotary@gmail.com.

During the weekend, the street festival features music, food, crafts, and games for all ages. There is a classic car show and a craft and vendor show along with live musical entertainment. Organizers said the Pumpkin Festival is a celebration of friends and family; a harvest celebration that generates an enthusiastic spirit and regenerates a sense of community.

The traditional festival tasting and digital photo contests are under way. All entries for the various competitions are due no later than tomorrow. Digital photo entries can be submitted to the Facebook page [@RomulusPumpkinFestival](https://www.facebook.com/RomulusPumpkinFestival) or emailed to pumpkinfestival@romulusgov.com

The public will be given a chance to pick their favorite entries on Facebook and winners for all contests will be announced on Facebook and contacted individually. Organizers said entries must

include the name, email, and phone number of the individual entering the contest.

Bingo games sponsored by the Romulus Chamber of Commerce will take place from 4 until 22 p.m. on Friday, from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m. on Saturday and from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday. There will be cash prizes all three days.

The Romulus Professional Fire Fighters IAFF Local 4126 will serve pancakes from 8 until 11:30 a.m. at the park on Saturday. Breakfasts of pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice will be prepared and served by members of the Romulus Fire Department.

The cost for the meal is \$5 for adult and \$4 for seniors. Children 4 and younger eat at no cost with the purchase of an adult breakfast. More information is available from Capt. John Thiede at (734)740-1194.

Also on Saturday is the popular Romulus Downtown Development Authority Pumpkin Festival Punkin Chuckin contest. The event will begin at 3:30 Sept. 16 at the festival hospitality tent. No pre-registration is required, although competitors are cautioned to warm up their throwing arms to compete for the various prizes.

In addition to the entertainment and games, a 5Krun and walk is planned for 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 17. The run will begin behind the Romulus Senior Center, 36525 Bibbins St. in Romulus.

Check in will begin at 8:30 a.m., warm-up at 8:45 a.m. and the run will officially begin at 9 a.m. There will be first, second and third place prizes. Information is available at (734) 955-4521.



The Corn Hole Tournament sponsored by St. John's Lodge #44 will take place from 1 until 4 p.m. Saturday, north of the Historical Park Pavilion. The registration fee is \$15 per person and advance registration is encouraged. There will be trophies for the first and second place teams and medals for the third-place team.

The tournament is a benefit for the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America and donations are also accepted. For more information, call Brother James Brown at (734) 389-5372.

The event is organized each year by a Pumpkin Festival Committee, first established in 1996 for the planning of the first festival in 1997. Members of the committee meet at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month beginning in March to prepare for the September event. Meetings take place in Romulus City Hall Council Chambers at 11111



Wayne Road. Volunteers are always welcome, organizers said. For information, or to join the committee, call the Pumpkin Festival Hotline at (734) 955-4577 or email pumpkinfestival@romulusgov.com.

On the move

The Romulus Recreation Department has moved to an office inside the Romulus Athletic Center at 35765 Northline Road. Director Colleen Dumas said staff members are eager to help residents learn about and sign up for the upcoming fall programs. Registration is currently open for Youth Gymnastics and PeeWee Basketball, she said. Adult drop-in volleyball will begin in October, and ticket information for the popular Daddy Daughter Dance in October will be coming out soon, she added.

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NORTHVILLE - SUMPTER

Township receives top rating on financial audit

Sumpter Township received the highest possible rating on the financial audit for the fiscal year which ended March 31.

Auditor Rana Emmons of the Post, Smythe, Lutz and Ziel accounting firm presented the audit findings to members of the township board during the Aug. 22 meeting. She said the township had received a clean audit with no clarifying opinions and no exceptions or disclaimers from the independent auditors. “We have nothing bad to report,” she told the board. “This is the highest level possible.”

Emmons complimented Township Finance Director Scott Holtz and his staff on their work on recording and reporting financial matters of the township and said the entire township staff had been cooperative and effi-

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The township received a clean audit with no clarifying opinions and no exceptions or disclaimers from the independent auditors.

cient in providing the information needed for the audit.

She told the board members that while there was no property millage increase in the township, there was a 6.1 percent increase in taxable value. In addition, she said, township revenue was up 6.4 percent as compared to previous increases of only 2 percent.

She said part of the increase in revenue was the state “catching up to the 2020 census” which increased the amount of state shared revenue the township received. She noted that town-

ship Treasurer Bart Patterson had done a “nice job on getting the interest income up” by taking advantage of interest rates.

Landfill royalties remained at nearly the same amount as in previous years, she said, as did building permits.

“Consistent and stable would be the words” to describe the finances of those items, Emmons said.

She said the township added \$252,000 to the general fund and noted capital expenses included demolition of the fairgrounds

and the installation of new fencing there, the purchase of three new police vehicles and the emergency repairs made at township hall.

“The township has no new debt,” she said. She noted that while the water and sewer fund showed a \$125,000 loss, it was “moving in the right direction.” She noted that water costs to the township increased by 4 percent and the water department had paid off \$515,000 in debt.

Emmons praised the 80 percent funding of the township pension fund, noting that the board had done an outstanding job. “The board has been 100 percent compliant with what the state requires them to contribute annually,” she said. “However, the board has taken a step further the last few years by sending

extra amounts to mitigate things like stock market fluctuations,” she said. “The board sent \$440,000 this year on top of what is required to make sure the pension fund is solid. The township has \$11 million in pension trust fund. That's not an insignificant amount,” she added. “This board is doing everything you can to be proactive.”

The state requires a 60 percent funding of the pension obligation, she said, and several communities struggle to meet that amount. At 80 percent in Sumpter, “the state will be happy with that,” she said.

Emmons concluded by again thanking township staff members for their cooperation and professionalism in the preparation of data for the audit. “Everyone was very accommodating,” she said.

Curtain going up... Tipping Point Theatre opens season

Tipping Point Theatre will open the 16th theatrical season on Oct. 4 with the 1988 beloved classic Driving Miss Daisy, followed by the comedic Hallmark spoof A Very Northville Christmas on Nov. 22, the Michigan premiere of The Chinese Lady on Feb. 7, and conclude with The Squirrels on April 10.

“After a successful and challenging 'interim' season, I am so excited to introduce our 'inaugural' season with something for everyone” said Tipping Point Theater Producing Artistic Director Julia Glander. “Changes abound with any new experience, and that is what I was thinking about as we chose the new season. It was important for me to reference our new mission,



vision, values, and commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and include these thoughts as we move forward.”

The 16th season will also include a musical (yet to be determined). Additional information will be posted on the Tipping Point website at www.tippingpointtheatre.com.

Tipping Point Theatre offers several options for subscriptions to fit even the busiest of lifestyles at a discount of up to 15 percent off the single ticket price.

All subscription packages are available for purchase online at www.tippingpointtheatre.com or by calling the box office at (248) 347-0003.

Financial strategy

Christie Bankhead, the Northville Township accounts payable associate, has been named as the new purchasing director in the township finance department. Bankhead will be the first individual to hold the newly created position. She will lead the township team of finance associates, which includes overseeing the daily cash receipting process and will oversee diverse purchasing tasks, from vendor relations to fraud controls. Her role also involves technical duties like managing vendor accounts and credit cards, preparing 1099s, and aiding in the annual audit.





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11:00am - until SOLD OUT

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INKSTER - WESTLAND

Local woman facing embezzlement charges

Former Wayne County Roads Division employees Jazmine Bass, 32, of Westland and Kevin Gunn, 64, of West Bloomfield have been charged with theft of more than \$4000 in county funds. Wayne County Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy has charged each defendant with one count of larceny over \$1,000 but less than \$20,000. According to prosecutors, Kevin Gunn was the supervisor of Jazmine Bass when she worked in the Wayne County Roads Division in the Bridges Department. On Dec. 5, 2022, it is

alleged that Gunn diverted county workers who were paid overtime and took county-owned building materials to build out Bass' store, Romulus Nutrition, located in Romulus. Romulus Nutrition is not a Wayne County enterprise. On March 24, 2022, the Office of the Wayne County Executive sent the office of the Wayne County Prosecutor an anonymous tip letter about misuse of taxpayer dollars at the Wayne County Roads Division in connection with Romulus Nutrition.

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The defendants in this case betrayed public trust by allegedly stealing for personal gain.

The executive's office requested an investigation that was conducted by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office Criminal Investigations Division, assisted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "Our continued cooperation and partnership with the prosecutor's office, emphasizes my commitment to upholding the values of transparency, accountability and integrity in our government. Corruption erodes the trust that our constituents place in us, and I stand firmly against any actions that compromise the well-being of our community," said

Executive Warren C. Evans. "Public servants dedicate their lives working hard to serve the public. The defendants in this case betrayed public trust by allegedly stealing for personal gain. Hopefully this case will send a message that this conduct will never be accepted in Wayne County," said Worthy. Bass was arraigned Aug. 29, in 34th District Court and given a \$5,000 personal bond. Gunn was arraigned Tuesday in 34th District Court and given a \$5,000 personal bond.



All aboard

Westland Historical Society members are planning a trip into the past Sept. 16. The tour, on a trolley, will explore the historical significance of Nankin Township and City of Westland. The tour. Set for 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., will begin at the Westland Historic Museum. The trolley will make several stops along the route, so visitors can explore and learn more about Nankin Mills, the Perrinsville schoolhouse, historic neighborhoods of Norwayne and Annapolis Park, Garden City and Wayne Historic Museums, plus the Malcom X House in Inkster. The trip includes a drive-by and historical discussion of Westland Mall, the Chief Tonquish burial site, and Eloise. The locations and stops could change as the schedule is developed, organizers said. While at the Westland Historic Village Park - all buildings will be open and available for tours including the gift shop. For more information visit whvp66@gmail.com and for tickets, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../westland-historical>.

Family seeking answers in shooting death

Survivors were overcome with emotion last week during a press conference seeking clues to the death of Anthony "Nick" Jones who was killed 4 years ago in Inkster. Jones, a 54-year-old photographer, cameraman and house-flipper, was fatally shot Aug. 31, 2019 as he was reportedly driving through the area looking for a house to buy near Lehigh Street

in the city. According to police reports, Jones might have had a verbal confrontation with his assailant who reportedly was driving a red vehicle. That information has not been validated. Police have no new clues or information in the killing. Jones' uncle, Larry Spencer, said that the family has had no information about the investigation and said his family is "hurt-

ing now more than ever before." The family believes the shooter confronted Jones, shot him and then fled the scene in a red vehicle. The press conference, in the hope of prompting some clues or information regarding the incident, took place at the site of the shooting. Michigan State Police said there is no new information about the shooting which took

place at about 12:45 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31, 2019. Jones' family released balloons at the end of the press conference in his memory. Crime Stoppers is offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to an arrest in the incident. All tips to Crime Stoppers can remain anonymous. To submit information, call 1-800-Speak Up.



Anthony "Nick" Jones



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Romulus Downtown Development Authority

Pumpkin Festival -Schedule of Events

Friday, September 15, 2023

Romulus Rotary Parade of Lights
www.romulusrotary.net

4:00 pm-9:00 pm	Bingo - Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce
4:00 pm-9:00 pm	Craft & Vendor Show
4:00 pm-8:00 pm	Pumpkin Painting Tent
4:00 pm-11:00 pm	Bingo Tent- Romulus Chamber of Commerce
6:00 pm-12:00 am	Arts Council Pumpkin Pub-Historical Park Pavilion
6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Waco Band - Main Stage
4:00 pm-11:00 pm	Food Trucks
6:00 pm-9:00 pm	Inflatables/Bounce Houses
8:00 pm-10:00 pm	ROTARY Parade of Lights begins-Goddard Rd.(Gabriel to 5-Points)
9:00 pm-11:00 pm	D'tour Band - Main Stage
11:30 pm-1:00 am	Dishwasher Safe Band - Main Stage

Saturday, September 16, 2023

8:00 am-11:30 am	Pancake Breakfast - IAFF LOCAL 4126--Historical Park Pavilion
9:00 am-4:00 pm	Car Show
11:00 am-8:00 pm	Craft & Vendor Show
11:00 am-8:00 pm	Inflatables / Bounce Houses
11:00 am-11:00 pm	Food Trucks
11:00 am-8:00 pm	Bingo - Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce
11:00 am-8:00 pm	Museum and Kingsley House Tours by Historical Society
11:00 am-4:00 pm	Pumpkin Painting & DIA Craft Tent
12:30 pm-1:30 pm	Greca Martial Arts Studio - Freight House Stage
1:00 pm-4:00 pm	St John's Lodge #44 - Corn Hole Tournament-N. of Pavilion
1:00 pm-4:00 pm	DJ Jeff Lowrey - Historical Park Pavilion
1:30 pm-2:30 pm	Giney Music Show - Freight House Stage
2:30 pm-3:15 pm	Step-in-Line, dance demo - Freight House Stage
3:00 pm	Pumpkin Chuckin Competition
3:00 pm-1:00 am	Pumpkin Pub - Historical Park Pavilion
3:30 pm-5:00 pm	Last Stand Band - Freight House stage
4:00 pm-11:00 pm	Bingo Tent- Romulus Chamber of Commerce
5:00 pm-6:30 pm	Full Tilt Boogie Band - Main Stage
5:30 pm-7:00 pm	DJ Kings Reign - Freight House Stage
7:00 pm-9:00 pm	Larry Lee Back in the Day Band - Main Stage
9:30 pm-11:30 pm	First Call Crew - Main Stage
11:30 pm-1:00 am	Comedy Show - Historical Park Pavilion

Sunday, September 17, 2023

9:00 am-10:30 am	5-K Walk with Kroger & UABB - Starts at Bibbins & Hunts Streets
11:00 am-4:00 pm	Pumpkin Painting & DIA Craft Tent
11:00 am-5:00 pm	Inflatables / Bounce Houses
11:00 am-5:00 pm	Food Trucks & Vendor Show
11:00 am-5:00 pm	Bingo- Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce
11:00 am-5:00 pm	Museum and Kingsley House Tours by Historical Society
11:30 am-12:30 pm	Worship in the Park - Freight House Stage
1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Outdoor Games
2:00 pm	Motorecycle Parade & Show
2:00 pm-3:00 pm	Live Band - Freight House Stage
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Pumpkin Smash Competition
4:00 pm-6:00 pm	Romulus Got Talent - Freight House Stage



CANTON

Brews, Brats and Bands set for Sept. 23

A 14-year tradition will return to Preservation Park in Canton Township Sept. 23.

Since 2010, Brews, Brats and Bands has attracted craft beer lovers and the older than 21 crowd to the special event set for 6 until 9 p.m. The event has been revamped by host Canton Leisure Services and the Village Arts Factory. Sponsors of the event include Schoolcraft College, Maraschinos Pub, and Beerfests.com.

“Metro Detroit’s growing craft beer culture can taste and appreciate over 50 specialty beers, ciders, and seltzers in one location,” said Kevin Ryan, Village Arts Factory program director. “Any event involving drinking craft beers, eating brats, and listening to music with friends and family is bound to be a good time. Plus, proceeds from this year’s event will benefit the Village Arts Factory, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Canton that serves as a nexus for the arts, culture, music, and community engage-

ment, as well as the Canton Cares Fund, which supports the Canton community by providing financial assistance to disaster relief, therapeutic recreation, youth and senior programs,” he added.

Admission includes seven tasting tokens each good for beer, cider, or seltzer tasting samples, as well as two grilled brats (vegetarian option available), a snack from the pretzel necklace-making station, water, chili cook-off tastings, and a commemorative mug.

The various brats will be provided by Maraschinos Pub. Musical entertainment will be performed throughout the evening by Standing Room Only.

Tickets are \$45, if purchased online before Sept. 23 and \$50 at the door (cash only). Tickets can be purchased online at <https://events.beerfests.com>. Designated Driver tickets are also available for just \$15. Additional beer-tasting tickets are available for purchase; receive four additional tickets for just \$5. Limited seating



Brews, Brats and Bands has always attracted the older than 21 crowd to Preservation Park in Canton Township. The event this year is set for 6 until 9 p.m. Sept. 23.

and tables will be provided, so attendees are encouraged to bring their own folding chairs.

For more information on Canton Brews, Brats, and Bands, visit www.cantonfun.org/678

Registration for B.L.O.C.K. programs under way

Applications are now being accepted for the Canton Lead #LikeAGirl, Be A #ModelMan, and Youth Advisory Council programs for the 2023-2024 school year. The free programs are available through The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center for local youths who are interested in developing critical life skills, such as: self-confidence, interpersonal communication skills, stress management, and leadership skills, organizers said.

Lead #LikeA Girl was developed in 2015 by The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center. This free program enables participants to challenge themselves, discuss relevant issues that young girls face with their peers, and foster

relationships with female role models within the community. This award-winning program serves a diverse group of young women ages 11-16 and is designed to change the way that these participants, and the community-at-large, think about what it means to Lead #LikeAGirl...and ultimately live #LikeAGirl.

Be A #ModelMan, established in 2016, aims to grow six core values, including: integrity, empathy, compassion, inner strength, courage, and respect. Monthly themed workshops take place from October through May and are designed to inform program participants ages 11-16 about healthy masculinity, leadership

and community involvement. In addition, this program curriculum encourages participants to interact and foster relations with public servants and community model men, who embody the program’s core values.

The Canton Youth Advisory Council is a group of area high school students who truly make a difference in their community, a spokesman said. Members participate in community service projects, lead special events, participate in local decision-making, and award annual grants to organizations that benefit Canton Youth.

“With the start of another school year, we are excited to challenge these young individu-

als with new experiences that will help them develop new skills and confidence,” said Chelsea Straub, youth recreation specialist. “All of these unique opportunities help inspire participants to be real change-makers to help make a difference in their communities.”

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply through The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center. Applications are currently available on The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center website at www.canton-mi.org/theblock and must be submitted by Sept. 22. Program space is limited, so applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Local volunteer and financial

support have helped these programs expand their positive programming opportunities. Some current and past sponsors include: MASCO, Community Financial Credit Union, Eastern Michigan University, and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. Sponsorship opportunities are still available for individuals, businesses, and foundations to assist in the development of future sessions. To become involved, contact Laura Mortier at (734)394-5376 or email laura.mortier@cantonmi.gov.

The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center is located on the third floor of the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road in Canton.

Survey

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up other avenues of disaster assistance.”

Members of the Canton CERT volunteer program and township staff will have proper identification, including bright uniform vests. Credentials will be available upon request. Canton residents are being asked to answer the damage assessment questions as accurately as possible and to provide any necessary information to help evaluate the extent of the damage in our neighborhoods.

Residents who may need assistance clearing their homes of flooded material or need assistance with debris removal, as well as tree and limb removal from the recent storms, are encouraged to contact 2-1-1 for assistance. 2-1-1 Michigan is available 24/7/365 and can offer a host of assistance to residents in need. Requests can also be made online at mi211.org.

Should questions arise during or after these short visits, residents are asked to call the Canton non-emergency dispatch at (734) 394-5400 for additional information.

For additional information about the door-to-door damage assessments, visit www.canton-mi.org.

Art exhibit set

Interpreting Life, a mixed media collaborative art exhibition showcasing the artists’ interpretation of the natural world around them, will be on display at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill through Sept. 24. The three contributing artists to the exhibit are Amanda Pringle, Andrea Rose, and Christina Czaja.

The art exhibit at The Gallery at Cherry Hill is free and open to the public during gallery hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursday and Friday from 4 to 8 p.m.; during all public performances or by special appointment arranged via email to elli.fassois@canton-mi.gov.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton.

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